ment of Kerala has inform that as a result of decentralisation of the administration of subjects relating to Scheduled Tribes development in Kerala with effect from 1.4.1991, the administration of hostels for tribal students was also transferred to the newly formed District Councils. The funds for implementation of various schemes/instalments are allotted to District Councils in monthly instalments. The allotment of funds was not made for hostels after three monthly instalment due to non-receipt of the utilisation certificates of the previous instalments which resulted in the shortage of supply of food materials. However, supplies were arranged from local shops on credit basis. The administration of the subjects relating to Scheduled Tribes Development including all institution like hostels have been taken back by the State Government from the District Councils in November, 1991 and sufficient funds allotted to the hostels for agganging normal supplies. Now there is no problem.

[*Translation*]

Facilities to Freedom Fighters

6696. SHRI BHAGWAN SHANKAR RAWAT: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of freedom fighters who have refused to take pension and other facilities provided to them by the Union Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M. M. JACOB): Under the Swatantrata Sainik SammanPension Scheme, 1980, Pension and other facilities such as free Ist class railway pass, free medical facilities in all hospitals under the Central Government ahd the Bureau of Public Enterprise and C. G. H. S. facilities wherever the scheme is in operation etc., are provided only to those freedom fighters who are desirous of the same on receipt of their application and subject to their fulfilling the criteria prescribed in the above said scheme. The question of refusing the pension etc. would not arise.

However, as a token of the Nation's gratitude to the invaluable contribution made by freedom fighters in attaining the goal toward the Country's Independence. Central Government offered freedom fighters' pension Suo-moto to 270 eminent freedom fighters so far. Out of them 17 freedom fighters have refused to take pension and other facilites.

[*English*]

Per Capita Availability of Milk and Milk Products

6697. SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT:
SHRI BAPU HARI CHAURE:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita availability of milk, ghee, butter and cheese in rural and urban areas in each State during the last three years; and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to increase the production of these products?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI K. C. LENKA): (a) A statement indicating Statewise percapita availability of milk during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 (provisional) is attached. Separate date for per capita availability of milk, ghee butter and cheese in rural and urban areas are not available.

(b) Following are the main strategies being pursued to increase the milk production:–